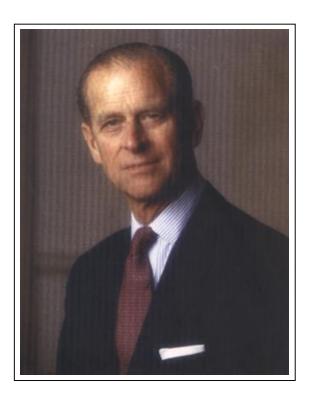
Foreword: His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh Patron of the Royal Institute of Navigation



BALMORAL CASTLE



There can be no doubt that artificial satellites have revolutionised navigation in all three elements, land, sea and air. However, no system of navigation, from Harrisons's chronometer, through star sights to radio aids and, now satellites has ever been completely reliable. The risk of awkward climatic conditions and mechanical or electronic breakdown has always been present. So, the great question remains, whether to have complete faith in any one system, however convenient and accurate, or to go for independent, yet complementary, systems capable of coping with problems that might arise at either the provider or the user end.

I would like to commend the Royal Institute of Navigation on the organisation of this conference, in conjunction with the International Loran Association. I am quite sure that the variety of views expressed in the many presentations will be a great help in charting the way ahead.

